

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-18 (Cancelled)

19. (previously presented) A method of decreasing expression of one or more inflammatory cytokines, selected from the group of IFN- γ and IL-6, in a mammalian patient, said method comprising:

selecting a patient with an excess of inflammatory cytokines, selected from the group of IFN- γ and IL-6;

withdrawing an aliquot of blood comprising blood cells from said patient;

subjecting said blood cells extracorporeally to stress comprising both an oxidative condition and an ultraviolet stressor simultaneously;

administering to said patient an effective amount of stressed mammalian blood cells, wherein the expression of one or more inflammatory cytokines in said patient is decreased.

20. (previously presented) The method of Claim 19, wherein the oxidative condition comprises bubbling a gaseous mixture of medical grade oxygen and ozone through the blood, for a period of from about 0.5 minutes to about 60 minutes.

21. (previously presented) The method of Claim 20, wherein the gaseous mixture has an ozone content of from about 0.1 to about 100 $\mu\text{g/mL}$.

22. (previously presented) The method of Claim 19, wherein the ultraviolet stressor is UV-C radiation.

23. (previously presented) The method of Claim 19, wherein the blood cells further are subjected extracorporeally to a heat stressor simultaneously with subjection to both an oxidative condition and an ultraviolet stressor.

24. (previously presented) The method of Claim 23, wherein the heat stressor is a temperature in the range of from about 40 to about 55°C.

25. (previously presented) The method of Claim 24, wherein the stressed mammalian blood cells comprise a volume of whole blood of from about 0.1 to about 400 mLs.

26. (new) A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of chronic fatigue syndrome in a mammalian patient characterized by an excessive level of, or excessive sensitivity to, IL-6 cytokines in said patient, which method comprises:

- selecting a patient suffering from or at risk of suffering from chronic fatigue syndrome;
- withdrawing an aliquot of blood comprising blood cells from said patient;
- subjecting said blood cells extracorporeally to stress comprising both oxidative conditions and ultraviolet conditions simultaneously;
- administering to said patient an effective amount of stressed mammalian blood cells, wherein the level of IL-6 cytokines in said patient is reduced.

27. (new) The method of Claim 26, wherein the stressed mammalian blood cells have additionally been extracorporeally subjected to heat stress simultaneously with subjection to both oxidative conditions and ultraviolet radiation.

28. (new) The method of Claim 26, wherein the oxidative conditions comprise bubbling a gaseous mixture of medical grade oxygen and ozone through the blood, for a period of from about 0.5 minutes to about 60 minutes.

29. (new) The method of Claim 28, wherein the gaseous mixture has an ozone content of from about 0.1 to about 100 µg/mL.

30. (new) The method of Claim 26, wherein the ultraviolet stressor is UV-C radiation.

31. (new) The method of Claim 27, wherein the heat stressor is a temperature in the range of from about 40 to about 55°C.

32. (new) The method of Claim 31, wherein the stressed mammalian blood cells comprise a volume of whole blood of from about 0.1 to about 400 mLs.